

www.outdoorlearningresources.com

Outdoor Classrooms has been creating environmental education products to enhance and enrich your school and nursery gardens, for twenty years.

All our items are designed with the help of artists, wildlife experts, craftsmen and early-years and primary practitioners.

All our wooden items and components are made from top quality, naturally durable Yorkshire timber.

To ensure that our timber is from sustainable sources, we have our own Woodland management team who harvest timber from local woodlands, where a sustainable management plan has been agreed. We will only harvest timber where the welfare of the local flora and fauna is the primary concern.

Finally, we never use chemical preservatives, or worse, tanned timber. Just one coat of linseed oil, applied in warm weather, will keep your timber items or components in tip-top condition.

Outdoor Classrooms. The **ONLY** choice when it comes to enriching your outdoor spaces naturally.

Den-Making Handbook

Produced by

www.outdoorlearningresources.com

In association with

Outdoor Classrooms Ltd



BASIC DEN-MAKING



Ropes: 1 long rope - 4 x 2m ropes - 6 x 1m

DOUBLE DEN-MAKING KIT Above x 2

Optional WILLOW BUNDLE - 12x1.5m Hardwood Poles

MAINTENANCE

After use, pack your Den-making Kit away safely in the fabric bag. If fabric or rope gets wet, dry before packing away. Muddy fabric and rope can be either brush off when dry, wiped with a damp cloth or cleaned in a washing machine on a cool wash *without*.

Always inspect the kit for damage, including tears and fraying on ropes and fabric, and splits and splinters on pegs and poles.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

Den-making activities should always be carried out under adult supervision.

When den-making with children it is important to teach them the safe use and maintenance of den equipment. The main safety aspects you and your children should be aware of are:

- Keep ropes away from the neck area
- Watch out for suspended ropes
- Look out for ropes and pegs at ground level
- Don't wrap each other up in fabric covers
- Keep naked flames away from fabric, trees, fences etc
- Always carry long sticks and poles with pointed end pointing at the ground.

The nature of den-making is to use other available resources around you. Be aware of hazards created by these introduced materials.

As a supervisor, monitor the structural safety of the den as it is being built and make alternative suggestions as necessary.

TOOL SAFETY

You may wish to introduce a range of hand-tools into the activity. It is important to teach the correct and safe use of any tool. For example, when installing anchor-pegs, you might use a wooden mallet to fix them into the ground.